



NRC NEWS

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO HOLD PREDECISIONAL ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE WITH SCHLUMBERGER TECHNOLOGY CORP. IN MONTANA

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a predecisional enforcement conference in Great Falls, Montana, May 30 with Schlumberger Technology Corp. to discuss apparent violations of NRC regulations resulting in the exposure of oilfield workers to radiation in excess of NRC limits.

The conference with Schlumberger of Sugarland, Texas, is scheduled to be held at 1:00 p.m. in the Great Falls Civic Center. During the conference, the licensee will have an opportunity to address the apparent violations identified by the NRC following an incident that occurred on a temporary job site near Havre, Montana, last year involving the mishandling of a radioactive source used in well-logging operations.

The public is invited to observe the meeting, but some portions may be closed because of discussion of personal privacy information. NRC officials will be available before the conclusion of the meeting to answer questions.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that a determination has been made that violations have occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. The purpose is to discuss the apparent violations, causes and safety significance, to provide the licensee with an opportunity to point out any errors, if any, in the NRC inspection report and to enable the company to outline its corrective actions.

No decision on the apparent violations or any contemplated enforcement action, such as a civil penalty, will be made at the conference. Those decisions will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

A copy of the letter to Schlumberger from the NRC regarding this conference and the NRC inspection report regarding the incident can be obtained from the Region IV Office of Public Affairs at the above address or from the NRC's Web site at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. Help in accessing the document is available from the NRC Public Document Room at 301-415-4737 or 1-800-397-4209.

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